

AMENDMENT and RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action dated February 9, 2004, the time for response to which has been requested to be extended to July 9, 2004, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as shown in the listing of claims above.

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courteous Final Action on the merits. The indicated conditional allowability of claims 6 through 10 is noted with appreciation. Claim 6 has been made independent.

Restriction

Applicant affirms the election of claims 1-11. This election is with traverse.

Drawings

Proposed corrected drawings are attached. Figs. 1A and 6 are proposed to be corrected as shown to meet the Examiner's several objections.

Section 112

Claim 11 was rejected under Section 112, second paragraph. Claim 11 has been amended to comply with Section 112. Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out the

claim error.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. §103(a) (U.S. Patent No. 6,320,29 Coon in view of 6,268,981 Coon et al.)

Claims 1-5 and 11 stand rejected based on Coon in view of Coon et al. Coon teaches a limiter system in which a flexure tongue is given ears to intersect with apertures in a load beam upon a certain excursion of the flexure tongue. This is not an alignment teaching. The alignment of the flexure and thus of the tongue is effected and fixed by welding the parts together. See Coon col. 2, lines 53-62. It would be a poor flexure that was not fixed as the position of its tongue would be uncertain, and thus useless.

Thus the Action comment that Coon teaches alignment of a load beam and flexure with plural locator structures is not true. The Action suggests that Coon only lacks a teaching of a flexible circuit as opposed to a flexure to be aligned. But, Coon, in addition to having no teaching re flexible circuits, has no teaching re a flexure, as opposed to a flexure tongue, of any alignment of a flexible circuit, or alignment of anything, with a load beam, using locator structures.

Coon et al is cited to show a load beam and flexible circuit. The Action suggests it would be obvious to modify the flexure of Coon "by a flexure with the laminate of trace conductors insulated with the insulative film" taught by Coon et al. The Action suggestion should read "flexure tongue of Coon," since that is what is "connected" to a load beam by

locators 22, 24 and 52, 54 according to the reference and the Action.

But, there is no connection between the flexure tongue 38 and the load beam 12 in Coon et al. To arrive at the claims herein, the Action must first modify Coon to have the flexure and not the flexure tongue connect to the load beam, have the connection be for alignment not limitation of excursions (eliminating the invention of Coon), change the flexure from a fixed (welded) piece of metal to an unwelded laminate of traces and insulation that needs alignment (destroying the suitability of the Coon structure to function as a flexure), and, make the unconnected tongue of Coon et al suddenly be connected to the load beam (destroying its tongue functionality). Simply, there is no suggestion in either reference for these changes. Further the Action suggests no motivation for these changes, which, given their destruction of the inventions in either or both references, must be strong indeed.

The rejection of claim 1 on art is respectfully traversed for reasons just adduced and as based on a dubious substitution of a flexible laminate from Coon et al for a flexure tongue in Coon without purpose, and without the proffered relevance, since even with the substitution there is no teaching of a flexible circuit laminate being aligned with a load beam with plural locator structures as claimed in claim 1.

Claims 2-5 and 11 include further steps not taught or suggested in the references and are patentable at least for reasons advanced in connection with claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 -10 are objected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and Examiner has indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 6 has been made independent.

Conclusion

Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-12 and 14 are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis J. Bachand, Reg. No. 19726
Attorney for Applicant
P.O. Box 1508
La Canada, CA 91012-5508
(818) 952-3414 Telephone No.
(818) 952-3420 Fax No.

Customer No. 20,986

Received in the Patent and Trademark Office:

- 1) Amendment and Response to Office Action dated February 9, 2004
- 2) Proposed corrected drawings 4 sheets
- 3) Mark-up drawings 4 sheets
- 4) Certificate of Facsimile Transmission

Inventor: Robert Summers

Title: Wireless Suspensions With Alignment Feature

Serial No.: 10/045,471

Filed: November 8, 2001

Art Unit: 3729

Examiner: Paul D. Kim

Docket No.: MGNC-045C

Date: 7-6-04

Date: 7-6-04

Total Number of Pages Sent: 20

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MARK-UP DRAWINGS

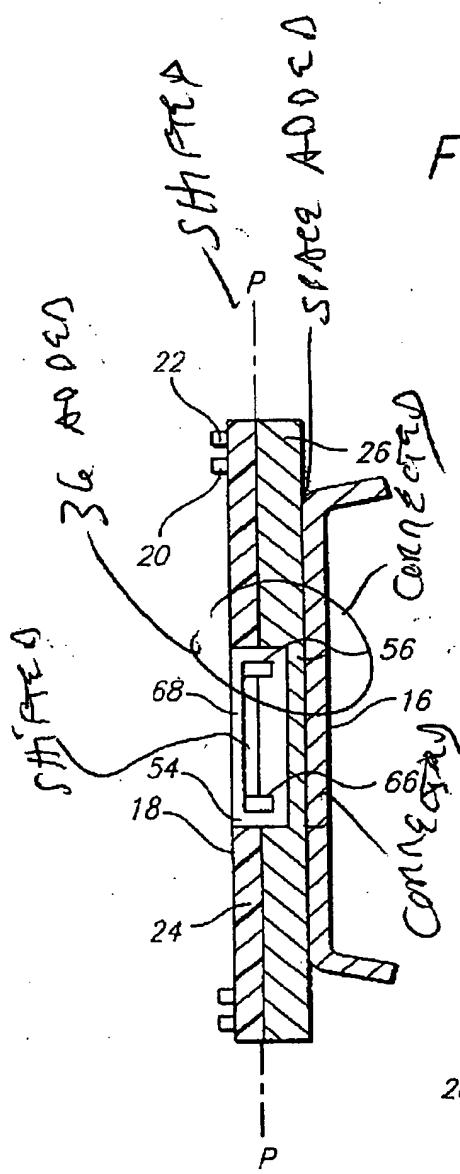
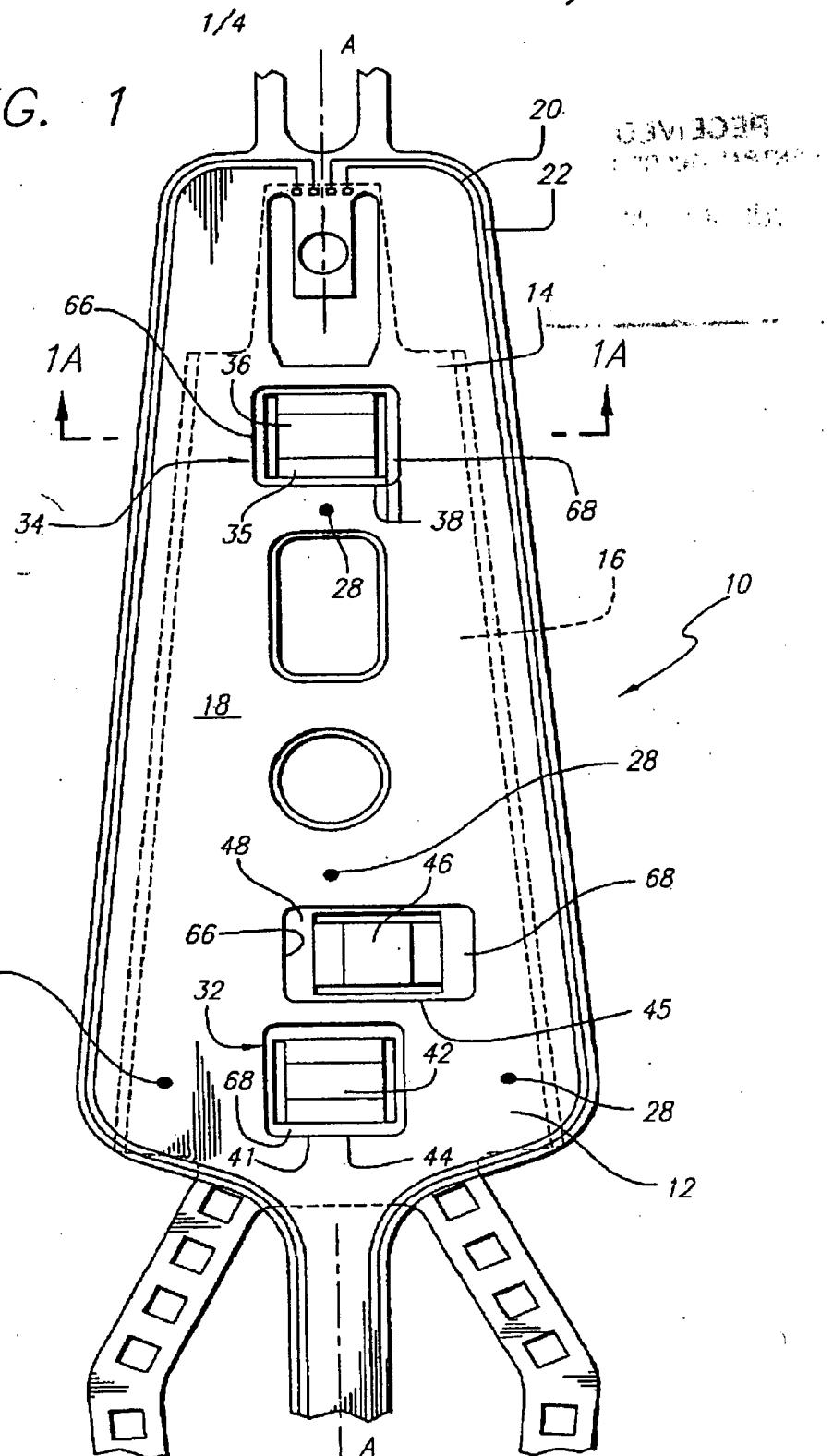


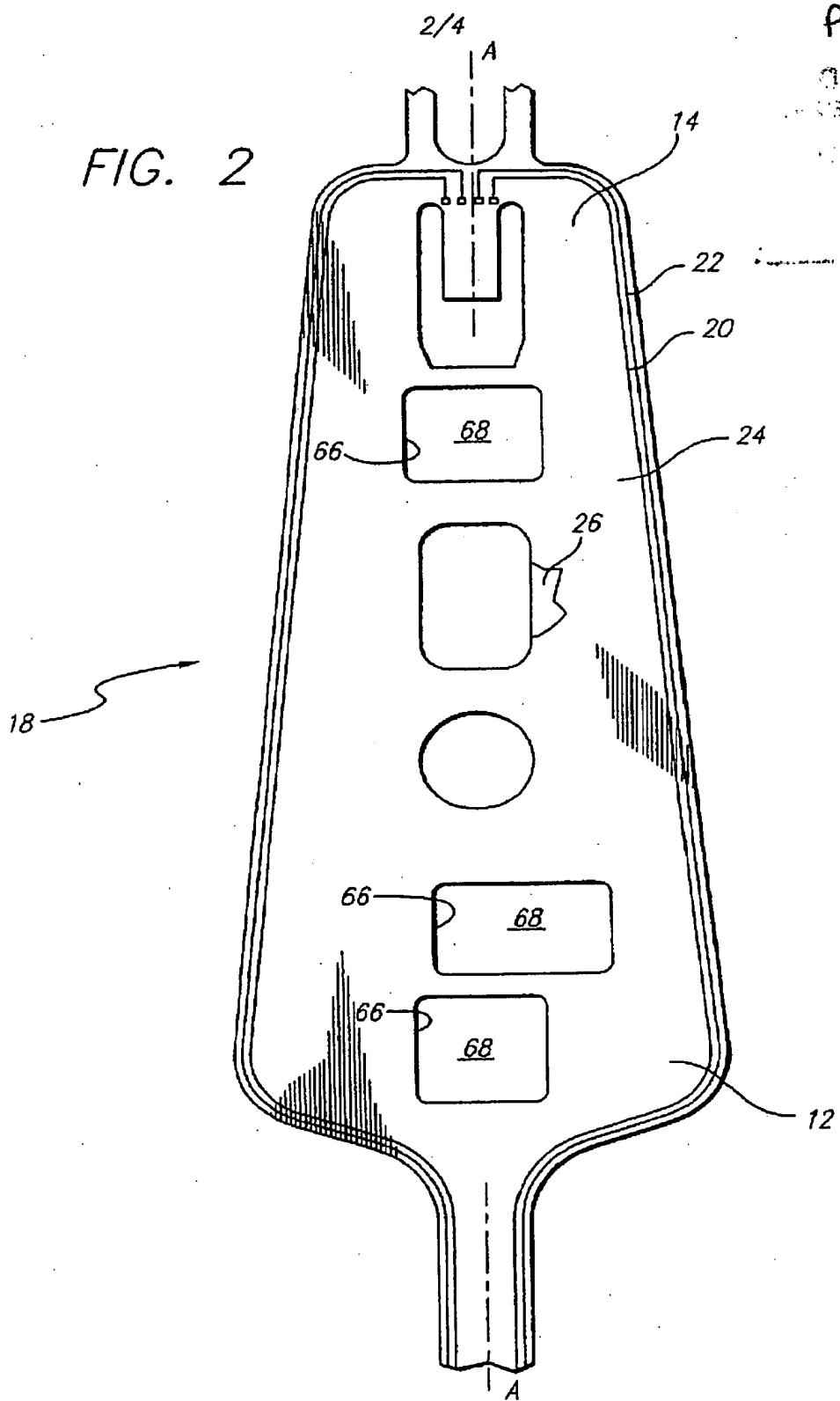
FIG. 1



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FIG. 2

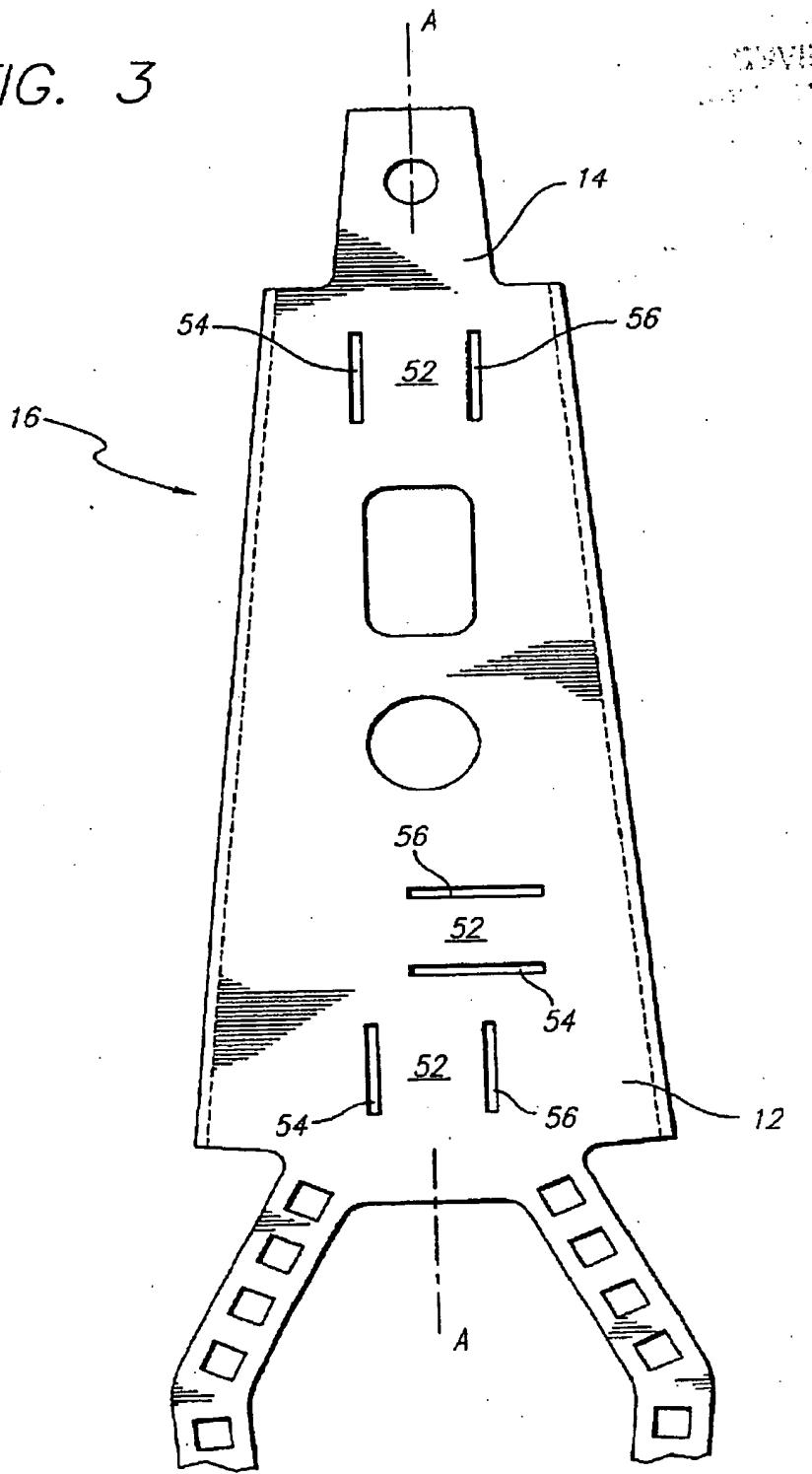


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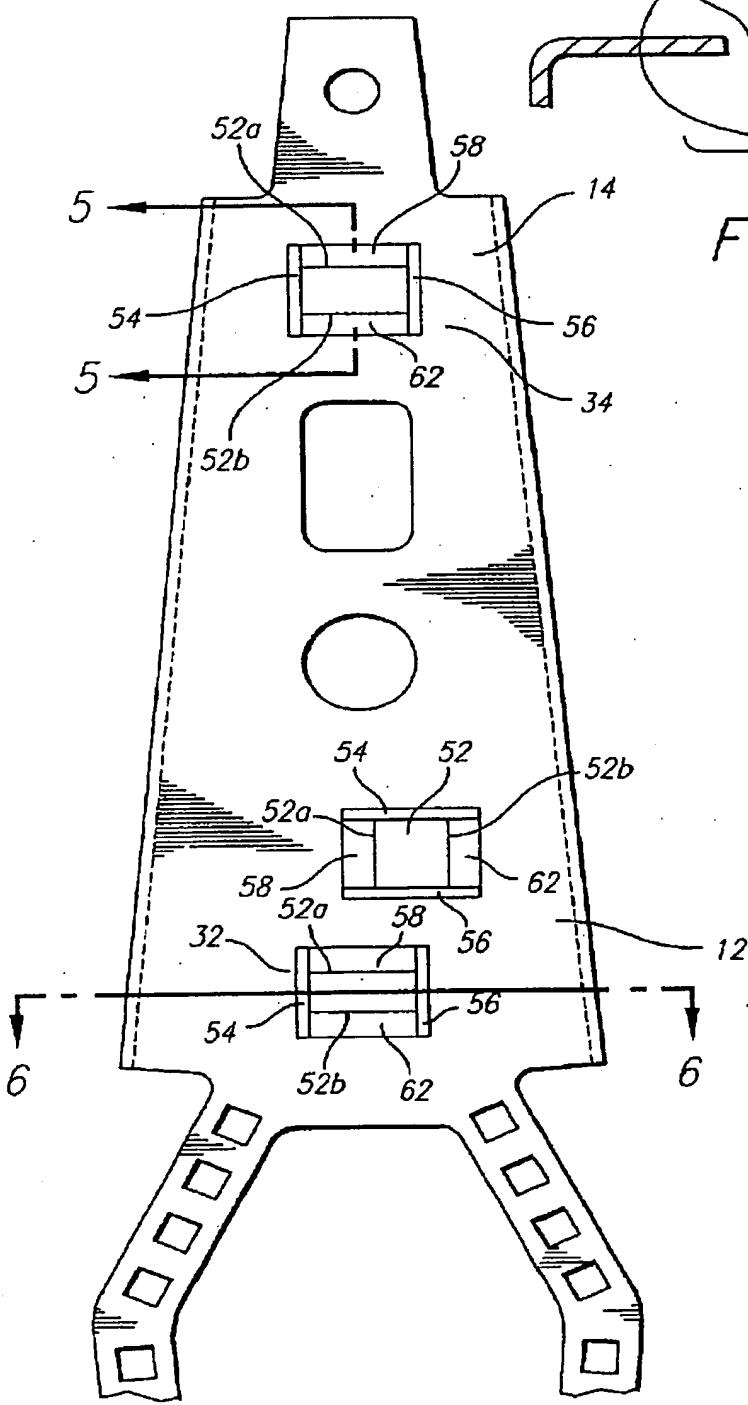
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FIG. 3



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FIG. 4



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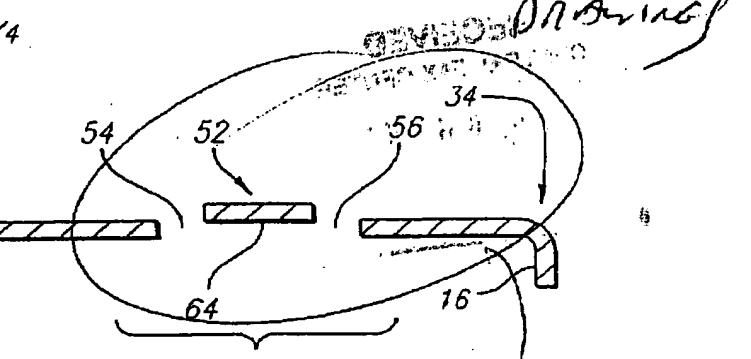


FIG. 6 connected

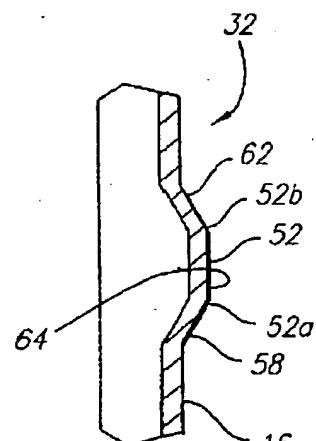


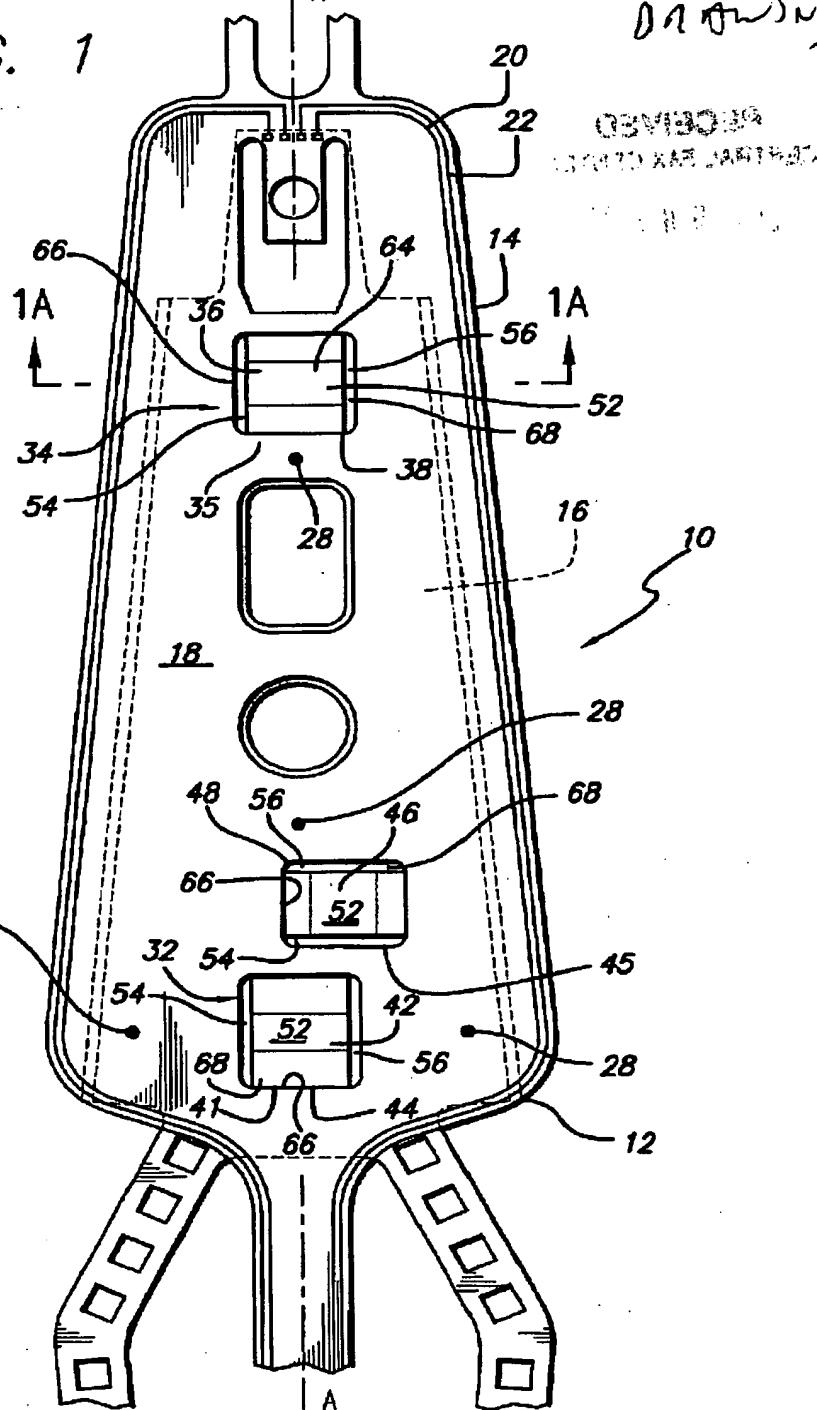
FIG. 5

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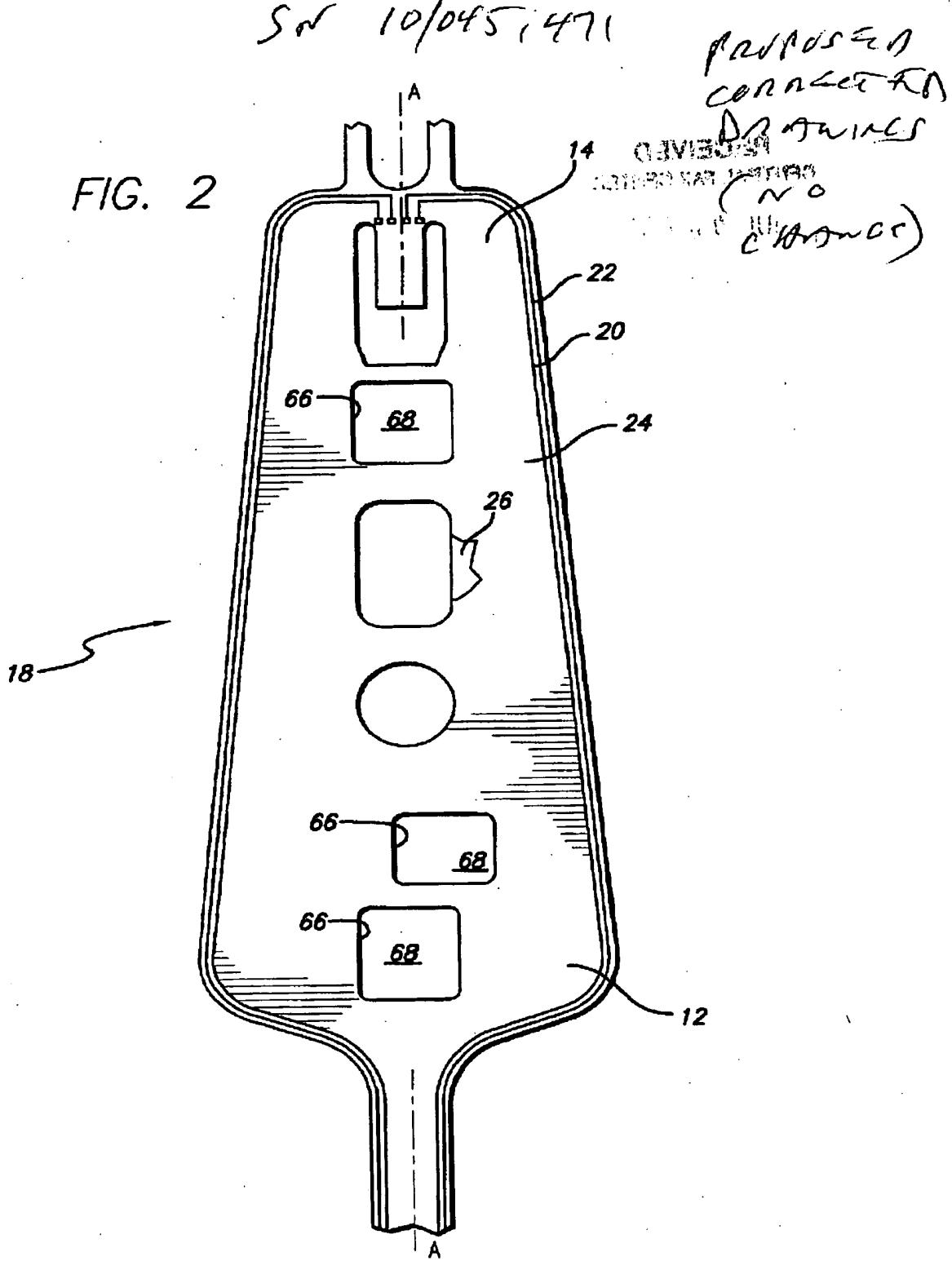
CONNECTED

FIG. 1



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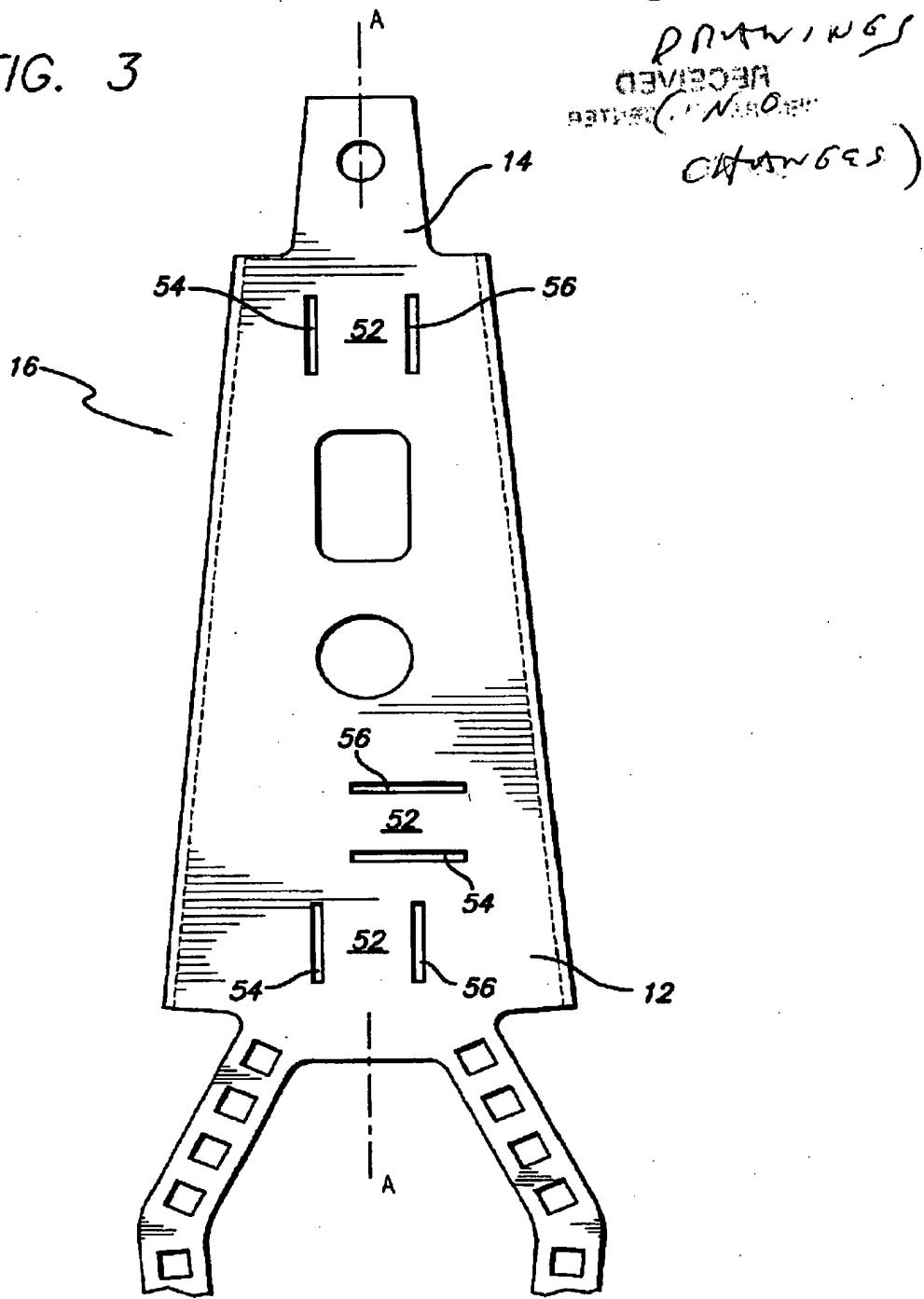
FIG. 2



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CHANGES)

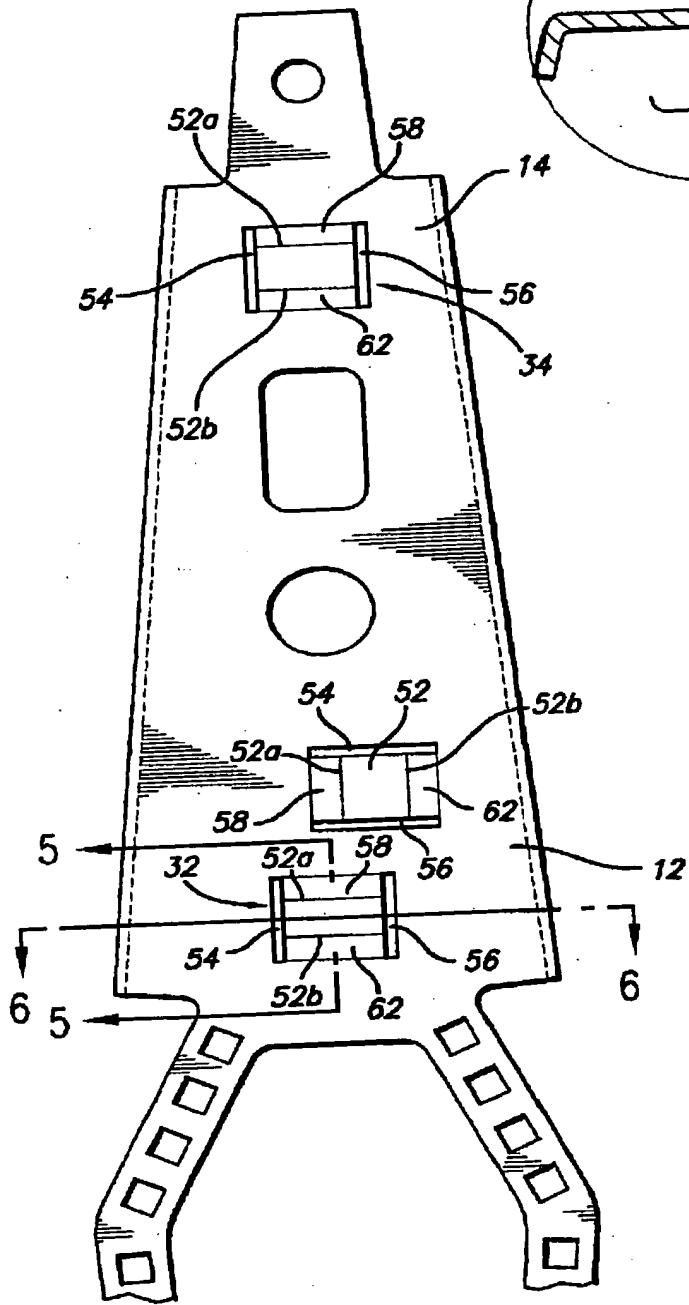
FIG. 3



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CONNECTED

FIG. 4



REVERSE
CONNECTED
OR SWINGING

FIG. 6

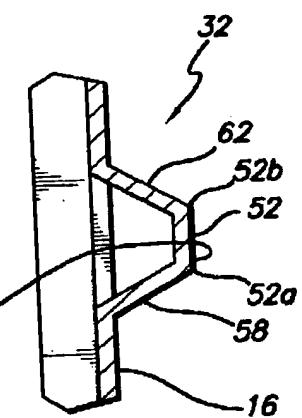
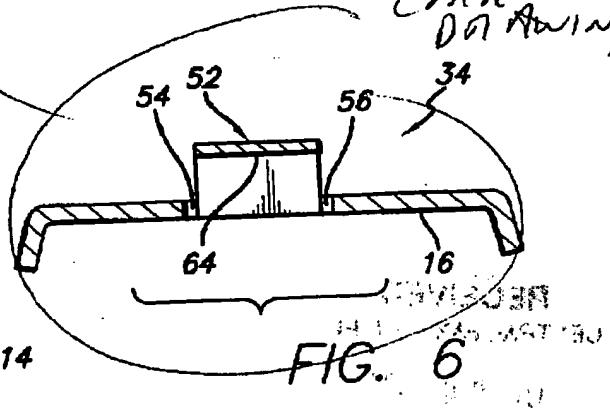


FIG. 5